United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3410 (NA-03-17)
Date: August 4, 2003

Subject: Future Gypsy Moth Management

To: Mary O'Brien Reddan, Forest Supervisor
Wayne National Forest

This year, gypsy moth caterpillars noticeably defoliated 62 acres of oak forests within the Marietta unit. The defoliation appears to be concentrated in the southwest corner of the unit and was locally heavy. Many individual oaks were defoliated and have since refoliated, giving them a lime green color. The gypsy moth fungus (*Entomophaga maimaiga*) (Figure 1) and virus have been active in this area as evidenced by the high numbers of cadavers present on tree boles. Since the Marietta unit is now within the generally infested counties. It is only a matter of time before wide spread defoliation occurs, this springs weather made for ideal conditions for the gypsy moth fungus.

Figure 1. Fungus killed gypsy moth cadavers.

We ask that all field going personnel continue to monitor for the evidence of defoliation, discoloration and mortality in their areas and report any insect and disease activity to the Morgantown Field Office.

If you or any of your staff have any questions or comments regarding this survey, please contact Rick Turcotte at (304) 285-1544.

Sincerely,

JOHN W. HAZEL
Field Representative
Forest Health Protection

Enclosures

Cc: District Ranger, Athens RD w/enclosures
District Ranger, Marietta RD w/enclosures
District Ranger, Ironton RD w/enclosures

JWH/RMT